

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1.-51. Cancelled

52. (New) An interactive directory system for permitting a user to access and retrieve information from a network of computers, comprising:

a key phrase field for accepting a search term;

a data table that is selectively definable by a user comprising:

at least two columns, each of said columns having a column heading;

and

at least one row having a row heading and a plurality of cells, said plurality of cells corresponding to said at least two columns, each of said plurality of cells for storing a unique identifier related to its corresponding column heading and row heading and said search term; and

a search unit for searching for unique identifiers from the network of computers related to the search term, said at least one row heading, and one of said at least two column headings, said search unit storing said unique identifiers in the applicable cell;

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whereby each said cell can be activated by the user to perform at least one action related to said stored unique identifiers.

53. (New) The interactive directory system of claim 52, wherein said activation is selected from the group comprising obtaining additional information, placing a telephone call, sending a facsimile, and sending a message over the network of computers.

54. (New) The directory system of claim 52, wherein said network of computers includes the Internet.

55. (New) The directory system of claim 52, wherein each column heading is selected by the user from one of a plurality of available column headings.

56. (New) The directory system of claim 52, wherein said at least one row heading is selected by the user from one of a plurality of available row headings.

57. (New) The directory system of claim 53, wherein said message is an email.

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58. (New) The directory system of claim 52, wherein said stored unique identifiers originate from at least two sources.

59. (New) The directory system of claim 52, wherein said at least one action is implemented with a single selection of the cell.

60. (New) The directory system of claim 52, wherein said system is accessed by selecting an icon on a computer screen.

61. (New) The directory system of claim 52, wherein said plurality of cells are automatically filled in as a user searches the Internet.

62. (New) The directory system of claim 52, wherein said unique identifier is a phone number, and said activation comprises placing a telephone call.

63. (New) The directory system of claim 52 wherein said unique identifier is a facsimile number, and said activation comprises sending a facsimile to said facsimile number.

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64. (New) The directory system of claim 52, wherein said unique identifier is an e-mail address, and said activation comprises sending an e-mail to said e-mail address.

65. (New) The directory system of claim 52, further comprising a cursor and an activity menu having a plurality of activity buttons; whereby each of said activity buttons defines an action related to said unique identifiers within a cell.

66. (New) The directory system of claim 64, wherein said cursor is activatable to highlight one of said plurality of cells and at least one of said plurality of activity buttons change to reflect said stored unique identifier in said highlighted cell.

67. (New) The directory system of claim 52, wherein said row heading and said column headings are interchangeable.

68. (New) The directory system of claim 52, further comprising at least one database, whereby said system accesses and retrieves information within said at least one database.

69. (New) A method for permitting a user to access and retrieve information from a network of computers, comprising:

providing a key phrase field for accepting a search term;

providing a data table that is selectively definable by a user comprising:

at least two columns, each of said columns having a column heading;

and

at least one row having a row heading and a plurality of cells, said plurality of cells corresponding to said at least two columns, each of said plurality of cells for storing a unique identifier related to its corresponding column heading and row heading and said search term; and

searching for unique identifiers from the network of computers related to the search term, said at least one row heading, and one of said at least two column headings, said search unit storing said unique identifiers in the applicable cell;

activating at least one of said plurality of cells to perform at least one action related to said stored unique identifiers.

70. (New) The method of claim 69, wherein said activation step is selected from the group comprising obtaining additional information, placing a telephone call, sending a facsimile, and sending a message over the network of computers.

71. (New) The method of claim 69, wherein said network of computers includes the Internet.

72. (New) The method of claim 69, further comprising selecting each column heading from one of a plurality of available column headings.

73. (New) The method of claim 69, further comprising selecting said at least one row heading from one of a plurality of available row headings.

74. (New) The method of claim 70, wherein said message is an email.

75. (New) The method of claim 69, wherein said stored unique identifiers originate from at least two sources.

76. (New) The method of claim 69, further comprising implementing said at least one action with a single selection of the cell.

77. (New) The method of claim 69, further comprising accessing said system by selecting an icon on a computer screen.

78. (New) The method of claim 69, further comprising automatically filling in said plurality of cells as a user searches the Internet.

79. (New) The method of claim 69, wherein said unique identifier is a phone number, and activating step comprises placing a telephone call.

80. (New) The method of claim 69 wherein said unique identifier is a facsimile number, and said activating step comprises sending a facsimile to said facsimile number.

81. (New) The method of claim 69, wherein said unique identifier is an e-mail address, and said activating step comprises sending an e-mail to said e-mail address.

82. (New) The method of claim 69, wherein said row heading and said column headings are interchangeable.